

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 7065

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, DPC

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF THE NATO COMMAND STRUCTURE

REF: PO/75/149 (DECEMBER 23, 1975), MCM 75-75 (NOVEMBER 13, 1975)

1. THERE FOLLOWS BELOW THE TEXT OF A SECRETARY GENERAL PRIVATE OFFICE MEMORANDUM (PO/75/149) THAT ASKS DPC PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES TO APPROVE THE MILITARY COMMITTEE PROPOSALS IN MCM 75-75, DATED NOVEMBER 13, 1975 FOR THE REVIEW OF THE NATO COMMAND STRUCTURE. SYG LUNS PLANS TO PLACE REFERENCED DOCUMENTS ON THE AGENDA OF THE DPC EARLY IN 1976. WE RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSALS SET FORTH BY THE MILITARY COMMITTEE IN MCM 75-75.

2. SINCE THE TOR FOR REVIEW OF THE NATO COMMAND STRUCTURE WOULD PROVIDE THAT THE STUDY GROUP "MIGHT INCLUDE ONE FORMER SENIOR MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF", SYG LUNS HAS PROPOSED THAT THIS INDIVIDUAL BE REGARDED AS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL. IN THIS REGARD, WE WOULD POSE NO OBJECTION TO A FORMER SENIOR STAFF MEMBER OF THE IS BECOMING A SYG REPRESENTATIVE; HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THAT THE INITIAL NATO COMMAND REVIEW SHOULD BE A CONFIDENTIAL

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STUDY FROM A MILITARY POINT OF VIEW AND THAT ANY IS STAFF MEMBER OF THE STUDY GROUP SHOULD ACT IN THE CAPABILITY OF A NON-VOTING CONSULTANT.

3. IN THE EVENT THAT THE NATO COMMAND STRUCTURE REVIEW DOES NOT COME BEFORE THE DPC BY EARLY FEBRUARY, WE PROPOSE TO URGE SYG LUNS TO TAKE EARY ACTION. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE BY COB JANUARY 20, 1976 ON PROPOSALS IN MCM 75-75 INCLUDING THE TOR FOR REVIEW OF NATO COMMAND STRUCTURE AND SYG PROPOSAL IN PO/75/149 THAT FORMER SENIOR IS STAFF MEMBER BE REGARDED AS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL.

BEGIN TEXT:

PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES WILL HAVE RECEIVED A MEMORANDUM FROM THE MILITARY COMMITTEE (MCM-75-75) PUTTING FORWARD DETAILED PROPOSALS FOR THE REVIEW OF THE NATO COMMAND STRUCTURE. THIS IS THE SEQUEL TO THE GROUP OF PAPERS PUT FORWARD BY THE MILITARY COMMITTEE ON THE PRESENT AND FUTURE MANPOWER SITUATION WHICH I LAID BEFORE THE DPC WITH MY PO/75/1 OF 4TH FEBRUARY, 1975.

2. IN THEIR EARLIER REPORTS THE MILITARY COMMITTEE DREW ATTENTION TO THE SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF MANPOWER ABSORBED BY THE NATO COMMAND STRUCTURE AND ITS ASSOCIATED COMMUNICATIONS AND AGENCIES (SOME 19,000 OFFICERS AND MEN OVER AND ABOVE NATIONAL COMMAND STRUCTURRS) AND THAT THIS TOTAL WAS LIKELY TO RISE BY 10 PERCENT BY 1982. THE DPC AGREED THAT THE MILITARY COMMITTEE SHOULD TACKLE THIS PROBLEM IN TWO WAYS(1):

(A) BY A CONTINUED SCRUTINY OF ESTABLISHMENTS BY MANPOWER SURVEY, THE CURRENT SURVEY OF THE COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS ORGANIZATION TO BE COMPLETED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE;

(B) BY CONSIDERING THE FEASIBILITY OF A MAJOR REVIEW OF THE NATO COMMAND STRUCTURE, INCLUDING ASSOCIATED AGENCIES.

3. THE MANAGMENT SURVEY EXERCISE IS CONTINUING AND THE MILITARY COMMITTEE IS DUE TO REPORT ITS RESULTS TO THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE EARLY NEXT YEAR.

4. AS TO THE REVIEW OF THE NATO COMMAND STRUCTURE IT WAS AGREED AT THE TIME BY ALL CONCERNED THAT SUCH A REVIEW CONFIDENTIAL

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WOULD ONLY BE LIKELY TO PRODUCE RESULTS IF IT OBTAINED THE ACTIVE SUPPORT OF NATIONAL AUTHORITIES AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL. IT WILL BE SEEN FROM THE PAPER NOW SUBMITTED BY THE MILITARY COMMITTEE (PARAGRAPH 3) THAT SOME SENIOR NATIONAL MILITARY AUTHORITIES HAVE SINCE EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ON THE WISDOM OF PROCEEDING WITH THE REVIEW. NEVERTHELESS THE MILITARY COMMITTEE HAS NOW AGREED TO INVITE TH DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE TO APPROVE IN PRINCIPLE THAT THE REVIEW SHOULD TAKE PLACE AND AHS PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE STUDY GROUP WHICH WILL BE ESTABLISHED TO UNDERTAKE IT.

5. PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES WILL HAVE NOTED THE PROPOSAL IN PARAGRAPH 5 OF THESE PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE

THAT THE STUDY GROUP MIGHT INCLUDE ONE FORMER SENIOR MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF. THIS I WOULD SUPPORT IN VIEW OF THE LIKELY POLITICAL ASPECTS OF A REVIEW OF THIS KIND; INDEED I FEEL THAT THIS OFFICIAL SHOULD BE REGARDED AS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL. PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES WILL ALSO NOTE THAT IN ASKING FOR APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE OF THEIR PROPOSALS THE MILITARY COMMITTEE WISH THE DECISION AS TO WHEN THE STUDY SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN TO BE LEFT TO THEIR DISCRETION.

6. I PROPOSE TO PLACE THE MILITARY COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM, TOGETHER WITH THIS PO, ON THE AGENDA OF A DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING EARLY IN 1976. END TEXT.
BRUCE

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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